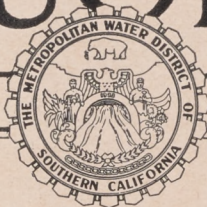


• COLORADO RIVER • AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT



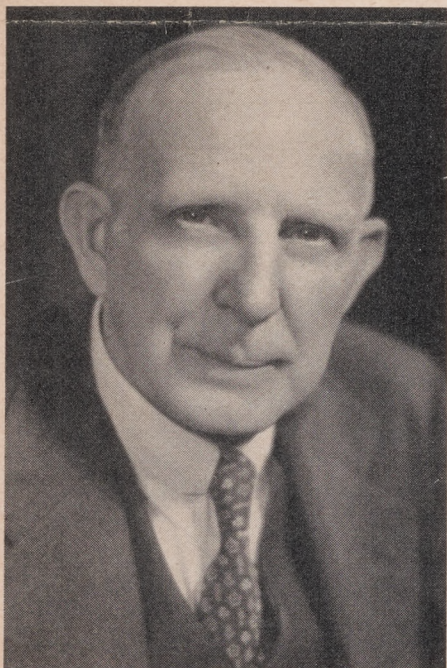
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XXII

JANUARY, 1955

NUMBER 1

DIRECTORS OF DISTRICT RE-ELECT OFFICERS



Chairman Joseph Jensen



Vice Chairman Warren W. Butler



Secretary Fred A. Heilbron

Board Officers Are Unanimously Re-elected

Joseph Jensen this month was unanimously re-elected as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. This will be Mr. Jensen's fourth consecutive term as Chairman of the Board.

Warren W. Butler was also re-elected to serve a fourth term as Vice Chairman, and Fred A. Heilbron was re-elected to his third term as Secretary of the Board of Directors.

Chairman Jensen was first appointed to the Board in August of 1940 as one of the Los Angeles representatives, and he served as a Board member until February of 1944 when he resigned. He was re-appointed in March of 1946 and elected

Chairman in 1949 after serving the preceding term as Vice Chairman. He is Assistant to the Divisional General Manager of the Western Division of Tide Water Associated Oil Company and a member of the Colorado River Board of California.

Vice Chairman Butler represents the City of Compton on the Board, having served as a member since 1935. He is the Managing Editor of the Herald-American newspapers in the southeast Los Angeles County area.

Secretary Heilbron is one of the directors representing the San Diego County Water Authority, and is also Chairman of the Authority's Board of Directors. He was appointed to the District Board following the annexation of the Authority to the District in 1947. He is owner of the Fred A. Heilbron Plumbing and Electrical Contractors.

Upper Colorado Bills Again Before Congress

California finds itself once more compelled vigorously to oppose bills that have been introduced in Congress seeking to authorize huge Colorado River water projects in the Upper Basin States, it has been pointed out by Chairman Joseph Jensen of the District Board of Directors.

Mr. Jensen is the representative of the Metropolitan Water District on the Colorado River Board of California, the official State body vested with the responsibility of protecting California's water rights on the Colorado River. This state board has placed itself on record as strongly opposing the proposed Upper Colorado River Basin Storage Project and the Fryngpan-Arkansas Project.

(Continued on Page Three)

• COLORADO RIVER •
AQUEDUCT NEWS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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 Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

VOL. XXII JANUARY, 1955 NO. 1

Water Is One Of Nature's Miracles

Although everyone in Southern California is vitally interested in the water supply for this area, they seldom think of the fascinating paradoxes presented by this all-important element.

A recent book entitled "Water", written by Mr. Thomson King, tells the story of water from the beginning of the world through its various stages of development by man. The following excerpts from this book may help to bring home to readers the enormous importance of protecting our water supply.

"Of all the substances that are necessary to life as we know it on earth, water is by far the most important, the most familiar, and the most wonderful. Life and water on this planet are inseparable. Life began in the primeval sea. The great majority of living things are still in the oceans. Land devoid of water is devoid of life. Water is the greatest of solvents. Protoplasm, the bearer of life, is a solution or suspension in water. Our bodies are more than three-fourths water, and our world is what water has made it. The life and welfare of man are inextricably bound to water.

"Water is many things, for it is the most versatile of substances. Its manifestations and aspects are the most familiar, the most varied, and I believe the most beautiful that nature provides for our interest and delight. The ethereal loveliness of high fleecy clouds, the gorgeous colors of clouds at dawn and sunset, the massive, resistless movement of glaciers that have covered half a continent, the splendid arch of the rainbow, the glistening lacy symmetry of snow and frost crystals—all are aspects of water.

"Water is the carver of the surface of the earth: as the hand of a sculptor works upon a statue, so water has shaped the face of all lands. The glaciers gouge out some valleys and fill up others. They created lakes and change the course of rivers. The rain and the streams are al-

Will Receive Bids On Aqueduct Bonds

On January 11 the District Board of Directors approved the recommendation of its Finance and Insurance Committee that \$8,000,000 in Colorado River Aqueduct bonds be sold.

The Committee recommended that bids be opened on March 8 at 11 o'clock.

The bonds are a part of the \$220,000,000 issue authorized by the voters in the District in September of 1931. Proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be invested in financing a part of the \$75,000,000 Aqueduct expansion program now under way.

Director Howard D. Mills, one of Los Angeles' representatives on the Board, is Chairman of the Finance and Insurance Committee. The other members of the Committee are A. H. Allen, Luther C. Anderson, Howard Boylan, Warren W. Butler, Gordon B. Crary, Floyd E. Fischer, Fred A. Heilbron, D. W. Pontius, John H. Ramboz, V. H. Rossetti, Hugh W. Stiles and Gus A. Walker.

Court Dismisses Suits

The Superior Court recently ruled in favor of the District in two taxpayer suits to stop certification of a December 14 election under which the Culver City-County Territory areas, comprised of Malibu-Topanga, West Hollywood, Culver City and other areas, voted to annex to the West Basin Municipal Water District and the Metropolitan Water District.

Superior Judge Joseph W. Vickers dissolved the alternative writs of mandate and dismissed the suits, thus authorizing the results of this election to be certified to the Secretary of State of California, who issued his Certificate of Annexation on January 11.

Chairman Jensen

Chairman Joseph Jensen is making a satisfactory recovery from a short session in the California Lutheran Hospital.

He entered the hospital on January 12 for the treatment of a strained back and a physical checkup. At month's end his condition was termed good and he is expected to be up and around in the near future.

ways busy removing mountains, creating valleys, and building flood plains.

"Water is not only the stuff of life, it is the home of the vast majority of living things. Life on this planet began in the primeval ocean, and sooner or later the greater part of the bodies of the creatures of the land will return to that ancestral home."

For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed January 1955, covering District operations for December 1954.

Colorado River—The Lake Mead water level dropped 4.26 feet during December to a new low elevation of 1105.48 feet, and a new minimum for usable storage of 12,758,000 acre-feet. This is a decrease of 417,000 acre-feet for the month and 4,242,000 for the year. At Hoover Dam the discharge was at the rate of 12,200 cubic feet per second compared with 11,200 for November. Lake Havasu elevation varied from 448.0 to 447.4 feet, with an average discharge at Parker Dam of 10,900 cfs.

Power and Pumping System—With the exception of a few short shutdowns pumping was on a 3-pump basis until 4:30 p.m. December 29, when it was placed on a 2-pump basis. Peak power delivery to the Edison Company was 115,500 kw.

Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant—Colorado River water was softened from a natural hardness of 329 to a finished water hardness of 126 parts per million at an average rate of 120 cfs. Daily rate of flow varied from a minimum of 107 to a maximum of 139 cfs. The total volume of water treated was 7,265 acre-feet.

Construction—The Garvey reservoir fence was completed December 20. On the Inglewood lateral 3200 lineal feet of 37-inch pipe was laid, practically completing this schedule; on the middle cross-feeder, the initial 495 feet of 79-inch steel pipe was laid. On the lower feeder 3323 feet of 108-inch concrete pipe was laid between Cajalco tunnel and Corona, and 3882 feet through the City of Corona. On the San Juan tunnel, excavation advanced 855 feet, for a total to date of 3810 feet, or 57 per cent of the excavation. On the West Orange County feeder, 7509 feet of 43-inch welded steel pipe was laid, for a total to date of 37,191 feet. On the pumping plant expansion, the contractor on the installation of pumping units 4 and 5 at the five plants has completed approximately 28 per cent of the work at Intake and 23 per cent of the work at Gene. Excavation for the pipeline and concrete supports and placement of concrete on the delivery pipelines were continued at both Intake and Gene.

Purchasing—404 purchase orders and 13 agreements in the amount of approximately \$84,660 were issued during December.

Upper Colorado Bills

(Continued from Page One)

"Bills that have been filed in Congress again threaten California's rightful share of Colorado River water," Mr. Jensen stated. "They are similar to the proposals which failed approval by the previous Congress.

"The bills call for the building of a number of huge dams and a score or more of irrigation projects, mainly in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico, in the Upper Colorado River Basin.

"Developments contemplated by the proposed legislation would impair the rights of California to the use of Colorado River water. The computations of water supply available for the projects are based on erroneous interpretations of the Colorado River Compact.

"The bills seek to make effective disputed questions of law now before the U. S. Supreme Court in the Arizona-California case.

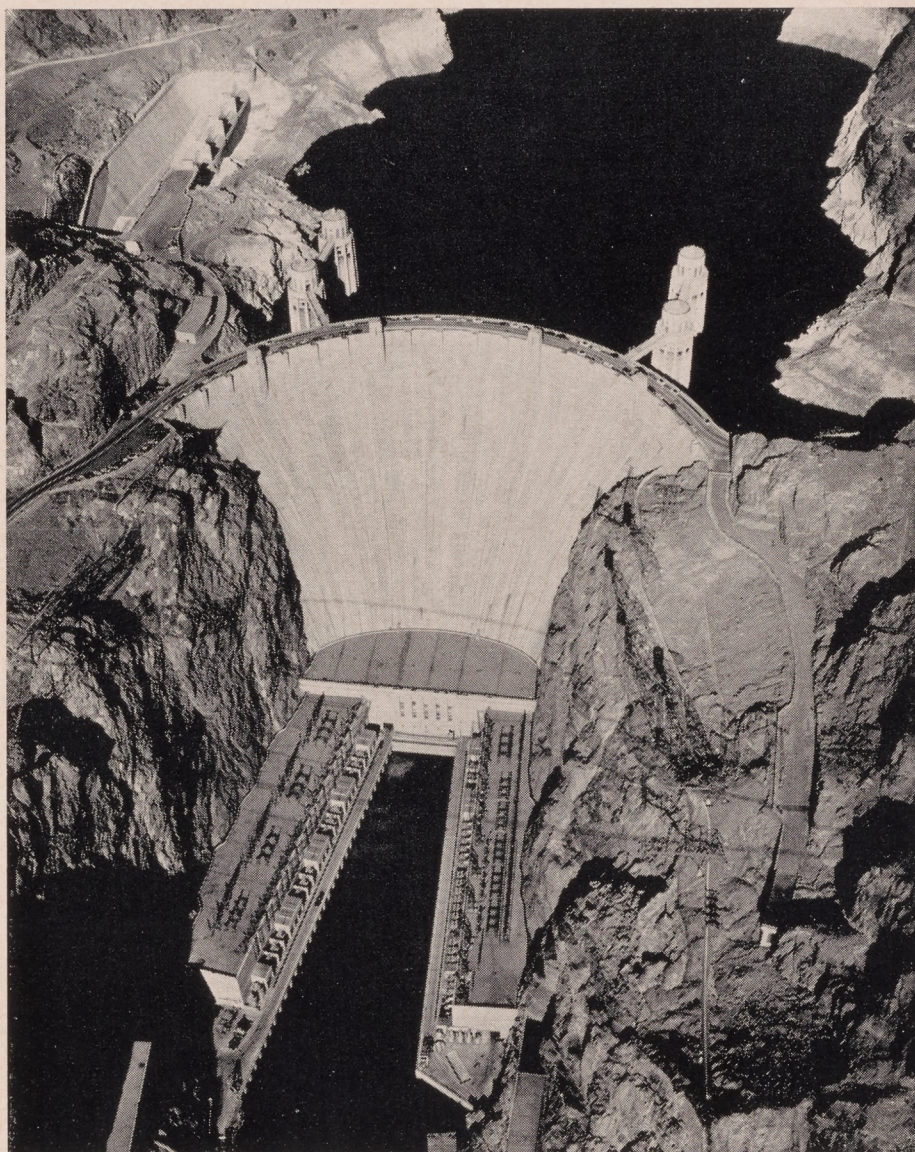
"Our engineers estimate that more than four billion dollars in subsidies would be taken from the taxpayers of the nation to finance these initial projects now being proposed. And the over-all development contemplated by the legislation would require many more billions of dollars for construction costs and continuing subsidies from the nation's taxpayers for generations to come. California is the second largest taxpaying state in the Union.

"The Colorado River Board urges that all officers of the State of California and its representatives in the Congress take appropriate action to bring about the defeat of the Upper Colorado River projects proposed in H. R. 270 and H. R. 412 and S. 500 and S. 300," Mr. Jensen concluded.

Membership of the Colorado River Board is composed of one representative from each of six public agencies having contracts for Colorado River water or power. They are the Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles; the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Imperial Irrigation District; Coachella Valley County Water District; Palos Verdes Irrigation District; and the San Diego County Water Authority.

In Mr. Jensen's statement he has pointed out the serious threat to California's rightful share of Colorado River water contained in the Upper Colorado River Basin Project bills now pending in Congress.

In a statement recently issued by the Colorado River Board of California nine reasons are given why the taxpayers in all parts of America would be adversely affected. These reasons are as follows:



A recent and remarkable air view of giant Hoover Dam. The photo was made by Louis J. Chazaro, Senior Photographer-Blueprinter in the Reproduction Section. This downstream view shows in amazing detail the hydroelectric plant, the downstream face of the Dam, the outlet towers and the rugged canyon rock formations. Hoover Dam is the keystone of lower Colorado River development. It is being paid for with interest by the sale of hydroelectric energy by the Government, mostly to public and private electric utilities in Southern California and to the Metropolitan Water District.

1. The Upper Colorado River Basin Project would saddle an enormous new burden of more than \$4,000,000,000 on all American taxpayers.
2. It is not needed to provide food for the nation.
3. It would furnish water to grow the kind of crops which are already in great surplus in this country, and which are already heavily subsidized by the taxpayers.
4. It would provide water for only a favored few who would pay only a minute fraction of the cost.
5. The farms are located in high altitude country which has a short growing season.
6. It would cost the American taxpayers \$5000 an acre to subsidize the proposed "irrigation" Project.
7. The cost to taxpayers for each 150-acre farm would be \$750,000.
8. Better agricultural lands could be developed, if needed, in settled areas of heavy rainfall in the east and south at one-tenth the cost, or even less.
9. Repayment of the cost of the irrigation parts of the Project would not begin for 50 years. Thus, for half a century at least, the nation's taxpayers would have to pay interest on money they would sink into these projects. This would amount to \$4,000,000,000.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



Anita Trudeau, Senior Bookkeeper, resigned from the District in January after more than 12 years service. Upon her leave-taking, her many friends presented her with a slide projector and accessories for it. Left to right, above, are: Mary Finnigan, Senior Draftsman; Miriam Beamer, General Clerk; Anita; Ethel Lockhart, Right of Way Agent; Miriam Taylor, Assistant Controller; and Glen Smith, Assistant Engineer.

John Diehl, former Assistant Engineer, who retired in April of 1954, was a recent visitor to the District's Los Angeles office and even more recently has written from Reno, Nevada. He sent his good wishes to the District's entire staff.

* * *

Clyde and Grace Taylor were recent visitors to Iron Mountain. Clyde was Station Electrician at Iron prior to his retirement in September of 1952. Since that time he has built and operates an auto court near Vidal, California.

* * *

Cecil Nicholson, Maintenance Man at Iron Mountain, is back at work following an operation performed at Needles Hospital. Cecil underwent the surgery on January 8 and made a speedy recovery.

* * *

The District extends its sympathy to Glenn Appenzeller, Junior Clerk, on the recent death of his father. Glenn returned to the family home in Milwaukee,

Wisconsin to attend the funeral and is now back at work.

* * *

Robert A. Gough, Utility Clerk at Gene Camp, has been floating on clouds ever since his wife, Patricia, presented him with a 6 pound, 6 ounce baby daughter on Christmas morning. The young lady made her debut in a Wickenburg hospital and has been named Victoria Lynn by her happy parents.

* * *

Fred Allen Moore returned to work for the District recently as a Maintenance Man at Gene Camp. Fred was formerly with the District in 1938 and 1939.

* * *

Bill Davey, who left the District with his wife, Gladys, in 1953 to go to Oregon, has returned to work. They live at Garvey Reservoir where he is a Maintenance Man. Bill and Gladys were both formerly employed at the Softening and Filtration Plant. Bill was a Maintenance Man there, also, and Gladys was a Switchboard Operator.

A large number of District employees attended a dinner at the Thistle Inn held in honor of Anita Trudeau, Senior Bookkeeper, who resigned recently.

The dinner was preceded by a get-together at the home of Miriam Taylor, Assistant Controller. Miriam Beamer, General Clerk, was co-hostess of the party with Miriam Taylor.

* * *

Word has been received that Charles J. Brandt, formerly in charge of Mails and Files for the District and now in the Armed Services, has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and made Deputy to the Chief of Staff at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Charlie and his wife, the former Eleanor Ely, also an "aqueducter", and their son, Charles, Jr., are expected in California soon, prior to Charlie's reassignment in the Far East.

* * *

Ray Whaples, Administrative Assistant at Gene Camp, has been hospitalized for a minor operation and is expected back at work in the near future.



Sam Thomason, Lineman, encountered some "very unusual" Southern California weather while repairing a District telephone line in San Geronio Pass in January. Sam insists, however, that the snow was really very warm—for snow.